



Eastham Dog Owners' Association May 18, 2017 Board Meeting Minutes

Board of Directors (BoD) Attending: Vicky Anderson, Joanne Baldauf, Ruth Bentsen, Cindy Blum, Tony Cantore, Dianne Cullen, Kathy Herrick, Kimberly Inman, Ellen Murray, Susie Williams. **BoD Absent:** Karie Miller, Tracey Plantier. **Members Attending:** Per Bentsen, Ed Daniels, Cindy Nicholson.

President Vicky Anderson called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm.

Monty, the faithful companion of Ed Daniels, was dog of the month. Monty, a Yellow Lab, is very enthusiastic about food and balls. He is fully recuperated from his bout with Lyme disease, which came on quickly and nearly killed him. This friendly lab has never had a bad incident with other dogs. He approaches with energy and barking but somehow the other dogs just know he's excited to see them.

Minutes from April 2017 were approved with one correction. (*Motion to approve by CindyB, Ruth 2nd, passed unanimously*).

TREASURER'S REPORT: Ruth reported total monthly income to date of \$85.00, and expenses of \$3662 (mainly New Merchandise and Buddy Scholarship Award). Our bank balance is \$18,789.14 (\$16,205.78 checking, \$2,047.48 CD and \$535.88 PayPal). (*Motion to approve report by Susie, Dianne 2nd, passed unanimously*).

COMMITTEE REPORTS (*Motion to approve Committee Reports by Joanne, CindyB 2nd, passed unanimously*)

Education: Tracey is leading the effort to secure a speaker for our Annual Meeting and she will provide an update at a future meeting.

- Ellen reported on her participation along with Vicky and two EDOA members at Lobby for Animals Day at the State House. They were 4 of over 200 people who lobbied their state representatives during the one day event. Although our team was unable to meet with Julian Cyr and Sarah Peake (neither was in attendance), they had a good meeting with one of their assistants. Various bills have been proposed to deal with animal cruelty, ivory trade, etc. Only two states in the union are without poaching laws – Hawaii (which is expected to soon pass a law) and Massachusetts. Anyone interested in staying up-to-date with pet related proposals and legislation should "Like" the MSPCA Facebook Page since they follow this activity closely. Ellen will also share links to this information with Susie for inclusion in an upcoming EDOA newsletter.

Lost Dog Network: Vicky read the report that Tracey submitted.

- She recently sent a list to our search team members recommending items to stash in their Go Bags.
- LDN has been pretty quiet lately. Only 1 dog was reported lost but it was located by neighbors within 30 minutes.
- Kathy is attending a 2-day training in Mystic, CT this weekend with Missing Pet Partnership, a nationwide organization dedicated to finding lost pets.
- Tony agreed to store our LDN signs.

LCAST: All is well...nothing new to report.

Membership: We have 179 members which is ahead of membership numbers from prior years at this time. Our major membership drive is complete, so we can recruit new members by talking to folks, letting them know about EDOA, etc. Cindy Nicholson continues to do a great job maintaining our membership list, and Vicky is doing a similar great job keeping the Town Clerk's office supplied with dog cookies and EDOA information.

Buddy Scholarship: The 2017 Buddy Scholarship will be awarded to Sarah Huber at this weekend's Bow Wow Bash. Sarah is planning to become a veterinarian. This year's award is \$1500. Susie asked that we get a good picture that we can use in a future newsletter.

Mutt Mitts: Vicky will get more bags from Nauset Pet Services. The bags at Wiley are no longer splitting. Claire and Ellen continue to resupply bags in the various dispensers around town.

Merchandise: Newly ordered tee shirts and caps are in. We will have a "fire sale" of old merchandise at this weekend's Bow Wow Bash.

- CindyB reported that the total cost for the EDOA beach towels will be \$175 higher than originally estimated (\$1375 versus the \$1200 approved last month). *Motion to accept an increase to \$1375 to pay for 100 beach towels, including printing and shipping, by Susie, Dianne 2nd, passed unanimously*.

Public Relations

- CindyB created a Pet Rescue Card that members can post in their home's window in case of a fire or police emergency. Each member will be sent a card for their use. 500 cards were ordered.
- CindyB redesigned our Hot Car/Hot Asphalt card for our use this summer. 500 cards were ordered.
- Ed is tracking our spring visits to vendors and town officials to thank them for their support.
- Ed is on a new task force to review the town's animal bylaws. Steve Wasby is leading the effort, with membership also including 2 police officers plus the Town of Dennis ACO, 2 Board of Health members, 2 ZBA members, the town planner, and 1-2 town officials. The goal is to try to get all the animal bylaws in one place. Send Ed an email if you have any ideas or comments about current bylaws. The Task



Eastham Dog Owners' Association May 18, 2017 Board Meeting Minutes

Force will eventually present its recommendations to the Board of Selectmen for review. Any bylaw changes must go to Town Meeting for approval.

- Ed recently met with our town's new Animal Control Officer to introduce her to EDOA.
- If you have any information to share with members, give Ed a few days' notice so that he can get the message out for you.

Newsletter – Susie is planning the next edition for the June/July timeframe. She will ask Ed to send out a reminder to our membership for ideas to include in this edition. Ellen suggested a new section with dog jokes and suggested the name Funny Bones. Everyone liked the idea, and she agreed to submit the first joke.

OLD BUSINESS

Website - As previously discussed, our current ISP editor (via PowWeb) is no longer supported, and our ability to maintain and update the site is limited and cumbersome. Ed has taken the lead in talking with consulting companies about how they could help us transition to a new and updated system. Ed and others recently attended a meeting with Hampshire Consulting regarding their ability to update our web page. Their proposal is all encompassing, using a new system called WordPress. They would redesign our page, move all files and pages that we deem necessary, add some functionality, and create varied levels of access for our site administrators so that multiple people can edit the site. After discussing the various proposals, the board decided to move forward with Hampshire Consulting. *Motion to allocate up to \$5000 toward new website development, support and related expenses, for the fiscal year ending 12/31/17, by CindyB, Vicky 2nd, passed unanimously.*

Bow Wow Bash – CindyN said all is ready for the event this Saturday, May 20th at Campground Beach. Signs publicizing the event will be posted at Wiley Park, 1st Encounter Beach and Campground Beach, plus there will be a blurb in the Cape Codder.

- Ed, Vicky and CindyN will bring tables, cones, trash cans. Dianne will assist with setup. Setup starts at 10:30 a.m.
- Vicky will bring our banner, supplies for the membership table, and Big Dog. Attendees will have a final opportunity to submit suggestions to name Big Dog, plus we also have other submissions we've received via email.
- Per will post the event signs.
- Ellen confirmed attendance by the Companion Animal Program. She also asked if we should consider doing something special for CAP to thank them for their support. There was no action taken on this.

Meet the Candidates – the event went well and our Town Administrator attended for the first time. Candidates thought that the event would be taped for replay by those unable to attend. However, this was not done in the past and was not arranged. In the future, we should get Local Access Channel 99 involved.

Windmill Weekend – Karie will update us on any issues at a future meeting. We did learn that the town's WW Committee will allow groups other than non-profits to participate this year. Setup and breakdown is a challenge for us each year since this is a 2-day event. Joanne said that most craft fairs employ a night watchman so setup can remain up overnight. Should this be pursued by the town committee? Everyone would benefit.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m. *Motion to adjourn by Joanne, Ellen 2nd, passed unanimously.*

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, June 15th at 6 p.m. at Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Herrick
Clerk